



Brownhills Ormiston Academy

Home Learning: A Guide for Parents and Carers

Why we set home learning

At Brownhills Ormiston Academy, we are ambitious for every one of our students. Home learning is an important part of our curriculum. It helps students to learn more and remember more by revisiting recent topics, practising what they have been taught, and preparing for assessments.

It also helps students to build two skills that matter for success at school and beyond: managing their time and studying independently. Class teachers, Heads of Department and Achievement Directors all keep an eye on how students are getting on.

What to expect

The amount of home learning set in each subject matches the amount of curriculum time that subject has. Home learning is set in:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- History
- Geography
- RE
- Computing and Digital IT
- French
- Art and Design
- Design Technology and Hospitality
- Music
- Performing Arts (KS4 only)
- Sport (KS4 only)

Quick guide

KS3 (Years 7 to 9): 20 minutes of reading, five times a week, plus 30 minutes per subject task and five Sparx Maths tasks (about 60 minutes) each week.

KS4 (Years 10 and 11): 60 minutes per subject task, plus two Sparx Maths tasks (about 30 minutes) each week and exam questions on recently taught topics.

- **Reading:** our KS3 students record their reading in a reading diary, which their Personal Tutor checks.
- **Sparx Maths:** Maths home learning is set online through Sparx.
- **Planned by experts:** home learning is designed by each subject's curriculum leader so that it links closely to what students are learning in lessons.

- **Feedback:** every student receives feedback on their home learning, whether from the online platform, their teacher, themselves or a classmate. Teachers also use this to shape future lessons.
- **Support for every learner:** home learning is adapted to suit the needs of students, including those with SEND.

Finding out what has been set

All home learning is set and recorded on **Arbor**. Students are given at least one week's notice of a deadline, so there is plenty of time to plan. Any revision that teachers set is in addition to the regular home learning, for example to prepare for a knowledge assessment. Please look at Arbor with your child each week so you know what is coming up.

How you can help at home

- Help your child find a quiet space to work, free from distractions.
- Look at Arbor together so you both know what is due and when.
- Encourage a regular routine and spread the work across the week rather than leaving it to the last minute.
- Listen to your child read, or ask them about what they are reading.
- Talk to them about what they have learned. Explaining it out loud is great revision.
- If your child is finding the work difficult, let their class teacher know. We would always rather hear from you early.

Celebrating success

We love to recognise students who work hard at home. Every time home learning is handed in, a house point is awarded. Each Friday there is also a prize draw for students who have completed their home learning. One winner from each year group receives a jump-the-queue pass for the following week and is invited to the Foyer on Monday morning to have their photo taken as a Home Learning Champion, to be shared on our social media.

Completing home learning is also one of the things we consider when deciding which students will attend school trips.

If home learning is not completed

We follow the academy's behaviour policy. Teachers and Achievement Directors monitor completion carefully, and if we have a concern, we will be in touch to work with you and your child to get things back on track. Please contact your child's Achievement Director if you have any questions.

Thank you for your support. Working together, we can help every student succeed.